

Delaware P-20 Council
Educator Supports for Early Literacy Through Institutions of Higher
Education Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

Delaware State University
1200 North DuPont Highway Dover, DE 19901
Claibourne Administrative Building, 4th Floor, Barros Conference Room
May 2, 2019
2:00 p.m.

Members Present: Shelley Rouser, Delaware State University; Carol Vukelich, University of Delaware; Danielle Archambault, Wesley College; Kathryn Brown, Wilmington University; Matthew Burrows, Appoquinimink School District; Caitlin Gleason, Department of Education; Audrey Noble, State Board of Education; Mary Pieri, Christina School District; Kathy Kelly, Department of Education; Stacey Stump, Laurel School District; Jessica Walsh, Christina School District; Raushann Austin, Department of Education; Wali Rushdan, State Board of Education; Germaine Solomon, Delaware Technical Community College.

Others Present: Jenna Ahner, State Board of Education; Dawn McHugh, State Board of Education; Elaine Marker, Delaware State University.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Rouser and Dr. Vukelich called the meeting to order at 2:02p.m. Subcommittee members introduced themselves, their organizational affiliation and their connection to early literacy.

II. Approval of March 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Dr. Burrows and seconded by Dr. Noble to approve the March 25, 2019 minutes as presented. The motion carried, unanimously.

III. Review and Discuss Current Literacy Requirements in ECE and Elementary Teacher Education Programs

Dr. Rouser provided an overview of material covered at the March 25th meeting and reviewed the agenda for the meeting. Dr. Rouser and Dr. Vukelich reminded the group that the subcommittee is currently in the data gathering stage. The group will continue to gather information at this meeting and the next meeting and use that information to guide policy and programmatic recommendations to put forward to the P-20 Council. They discussed the desire to provide an update to the P-20 Council at their July meeting and to provide a set of recommendations to the Council in October.

Dr. Rouser and Dr. Marker provided an overview of literacy requirements in the early childhood and elementary education programs at Delaware State University. Subcommittee members discussed certifications for special education, alignment with the high school educator pathway, and the use of field observations. Members discussed the opportunity to align teacher preparation, mentoring, and professional development.

Dr. Brown provided an overview of literacy requirements at Wilmington University.

Members asked questions regarding literacy requirements in graduate degree programs, ARTC programs, and programs for para-educators across all Delaware institutions. Members discussed the need to consider recommendations that could help develop skillsets. Committee members discussed the difference between observing practice and executing. Committee members discussed the ILA standards and the need for a common understanding of the standards.

Ms. Archambault provided an overview of literacy requirements at Wesley College. Members discussed partnerships with schools and the community.

Ms. Solomon provided an overview of literacy requirements at Delaware Technical Community College.

Members discussed the desire to have higher education institutions talk with students and observe current practice. Members discussed the desire for professional development for literacy.

Dr. Vukelich provided an overview of literacy requirements at the University of Delaware. Members discussed the performance assessment currently required. Members also discussed how feedback on performance is given.

Dr. Vukelich provided insight into CAEP Standards and NAEYC Early Childhood Teacher Education Program Standards. Members discussed the need for preparation and compensation in the early childhood field.

IV. Review and Discuss Professional Development Currently Available

Ms. Kelly provided background on professional development related to literacy underway through the Department of Education.

Members asked questions regarding ILA coaching. Members also discussed the need to differentiate professional development for K-2.

Ms. Gleason discussed the Office of Early Learning's partnership with the Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood. Ms. Gleason discussed the work underway and the need to better communicate opportunities, scale programs, and provide more targeted "practice-based coaching". Members discussed the need for more opportunities for teachers working with student's birth through age five.

V. Next Steps

Dr. Rouser and Dr. Vukelich asked members to consider questions and information needed to work toward recommendations. The questions put forward by members will inform the next agenda.

The next meeting is being planned for June 24th at Delaware State University from 2-

4p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 4:01p.m.